

# Fact Sheet

## Long-Term Care Residents, Medicaid and Stimulus Checks



### Will stimulus checks affect a resident's Medicaid eligibility?

The IRS defines the stimulus checks as tax rebates that will not be counted as income or resources for 12 months from receipt. If funds are unspent after 12 months of receipt, the unspent funds will be counted as a resource. Medicaid is automatically extended for all current Medicaid-eligible individuals. Anyone who currently has benefits will not be denied during this period.

Medicaid spending rules still apply as these funds will fall in a "look-back period." KEEP ALL RECEIPTS of EXPENSES, especially for purchases of over \$200.

### Will the stimulus check count as applied income?

No. As a tax rebate, the individual stimulus check will not be calculated as applied income. A person's applied income amount will not be changed by the payment.

### Examples of allowable spending

Dental care, sitter care, assistive device not covered (e.g. battery oxygen device)

Tablet, phone, TV, WIFI, reading material

Clothing, shoes, hygiene supplies, haircuts

Minifridge, snacks

Burial contract with funeral home (not a burial insurance plan)

Personal non-medical outings transport

Expenses to move to community (if planned)

### Medicaid rules for spending

Cannot give cash to friends, family, charity, churches

Must spend in 12 months

Must spend on an allowable asset or for resident care or quality of life

**Do not spend on services covered by Medicare/Medicaid**

### Topics:

- Will stimulus checks affect a resident's Medicaid eligibility?
- Will the stimulus check count as applied income?
- Examples of allowable spending
- Medicaid rules for spending

### Additional Resources:

<https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/economic-impact-payments-what-you-need-to-know>

<https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here>

<https://www.medicaidplanningassistance.org/covid-19-stimulus-checks-impact/>

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### Residents and Families,

More information about the Stimulus Check can be found <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/economic-impact-payments-what-you-need-to-know>

Stimulus checks are expected to start being distributed **April 17, 2020**. It will be sent the same way as social security checks are currently sent for persons receiving SSA and SSI-D. Action is only required by a resident who does not receive SSA or SSI-D, and who did not file a tax return in 2018 or 2019. They can check the link above for instructions. Full vendor residents who do not receive either SSA or SSI-D can register at this link: (blue button, mid-page) <https://www.irs.gov/coronavirus/non-filers-enter-payment-info-here>

### Make sure all new purchases are

1. Marked with the resident's name. For clothing, mark inside of collar or waistband.
2. Put on the resident's inventory sheet with the facility, in case it is lost.
3. Allowable by Medicaid. Have the facility's business office check with a Medicaid representative BEFORE purchasing.
4. Supported with receipts. Give a copy of all receipts to the business office. Any expense over \$200 will likely need to be explained to Medicaid when renewing your application.

This information is provided by the Office of Kansas Long-Term Care Ombudsman – advocates for long-term care residents.



**Website:**  
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